

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Andhra Pradesh Medical & Health Services - P.Vasantha Rao, Ophthalmic Assistant, Primary Health Centre, Kinthali - Negligence in conducting cataract operations resulting in loss of eyesight by (15) patients in October, 2003 - Disciplinary action - Imposition of penalty of two annual grade increments - Orders - Issued.

HEALTH, MEDICAL AND FAMILY WELFARE (VC.II.2) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 725

Dated: 17-03-2011

Read the following:

1. From the Director of Health, Hyderabad
Rc.No.18361/NPCB-2/2003, Dt.22/11/03.
2. G.O.Rt.No.931, H.M.&FW(VC.II) Dept, Dt.1-11-2004
3. G.O.Rt.No.1159, H.M.&FW(VC.II) Dept, Dt.22-8-2007
4. Govt.Memo.No.25287/VC.II(2)/2003-13, Dt.26-6-2007
5. Enquiry Report received from the Supdt, Sarojini Devi Eye
Hospital in Rc.No.SDEH/Peshi/1476/2008, dt.30-4-2008
6. Govt.Memo.No.25287/V.C.II(2)/2003-27, Dt.2-8-2010
7. Explanation of P.Vasantha Rao, Paramedical Ophthalmic Officer,
PHC, Patharlapalli, Srikakulam Dist Dt.3-9-2010
8. Govt.Lr.No.25287/VC.II.2/2003-25, Dt.19-5-2010
9. From the Prl. Secretary, APPSC, Lr.No.737/RT-I/3/2010, Dt.22-11-2010

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ORDER:

In the reference first read above, the Director of Public Health has stated that the Mobile Unit, National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), District Hospital, Srikakulam had conducted eye camps in Polaki and Tankala Duggivalasa Villages in October 2003 and performed IOL Cataract Surgeries with the help of Sri P.Vasantha Rao, Ophthalmic Assistant. At the time of post operative check up, one case had shown severe infection i.e. Endophthalmitis. All fifteen patients who developed serious Endophthalmitis following cataract surgery had brought to the District Hospital and treated them for three days before discharging them, which was conducted by Dr.Chandramouli, assisted by Sri P.Vasantha Rao. However, Sri P.Vasantha Rao, Ophthalmic Assistant did not inform higher authorities about the out break of serious infection and about loss of vision by fifteen patients even after twenty days of surgery, which shows grave negligence of the officials concerned for the lives of human beings. Sri P.Vasantha Rao did not take any measures to report infection and did not follow up their recovery. Sri P.Vasantha Rao, Ophthalmic Assistant has thus failed to discharge his duties, which resulted in loss of eye sight by fifteen persons.

2. Dr.M.Ashok Kumar, Professor of Ophthalmology, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad / Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad was appointed to enquire into the matter and he reported after due enquiry that conduct of camps for cataract operations poses serious threat of infection, which resulted in fifteen persons losing their eye sight. The Government after examination of the preliminary enquiry report had issued articles of charge against Sri P.Vasantha Rao, Ophthalmic Assistant, Srikakulam vide references 2nd and 3rd read above. Sri P.Vasantha Rao, Ophthalmic Assistant has submitted his explanation to the Government.

(P.T.O.)

3. After examination of the explanation to the articles of charge, which were found unsatisfactory, the Government appointed the Superintendent of Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad as Enquiry Officer to conduct enquiry into the charges framed against Sri P.Vasantha Rao vide reference 4th read above. The Enquiry report was submitted by the Enquiry Officer in the reference 5th read above. Government after examination of the report of the Enquiry Officer have observed that, Sri P.Vasantha Rao was responsible for fifteen persons losing eye sight due to negligence, poor-post-operative care and failure to maintain sterile operating conditions. As such the Government under rule 21 (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules 1991, arrived at a provisional decision to impose the major punishment against Sri P.Vasantha Rao, Ophthalmic Assistant and accordingly issued a show cause notice to him duly indicating the factors for seeking his explanation as to why suitable penalty should not be imposed on him vide reference 6th read above. The charged Officer has submitted his explanation to the show cause notice vide reference 7th read above.

4. The Government after examination of the explanation of Sri P.Vasantha Rao, formerly Ophthalmic Assistant and after consulting the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission vide reference 8th read above has decided to impose a major penalty of withholding of two annual grade increments with cumulative effect on Sri P.Vasantha Rao, formerly Ophthalmic Assistant, Srikakulam District, under clause (vi) of rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991.

5. Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991, Government hereby impose the penalty of withholding of two annual grade increments with cumulative effect on Sri P.Vasantha Rao, formerly Ophthalmic Assistant, Primary Health Centre, Srikakulam District.

6. The Director of Public Health, A.P. Hyderabad shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Dr. P.V. RAMESH
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri P.Vasantha Rao, formerly Ophthalmic Assistant,
Primary Health Centre, Patharlapalli, Srikakulam District
through the Director of Public Health, A.P. Hyderabad.
The Director of Public Health, A.P. Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Commissioner, A.P. Vaidya Vidhana Parishad, Hyderabad.
The District Medical & Health Officer, Srikakulam.
The District Coordinator of Hospital Services, Srikakulam.
The Superintendent, District Hospital, Srikakulam.
The Accountant General, A.P. Hyderabad.
The Officer on Special Duty to Minister (M&H).
The P.S. to Principal Secretary to Government, HM&FW Department.
SF/SC

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER